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# *Real Deal This Time?*

## *'Ransom Ship' Sails*

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Relatives of the Cuban Bay of Pigs prisoners mustered high hopes again Monday, as they have so many times before, that Fidel Castro at last

will decide he needs a multi-million dollar package of foods and medicines more than the 1,113 captives.

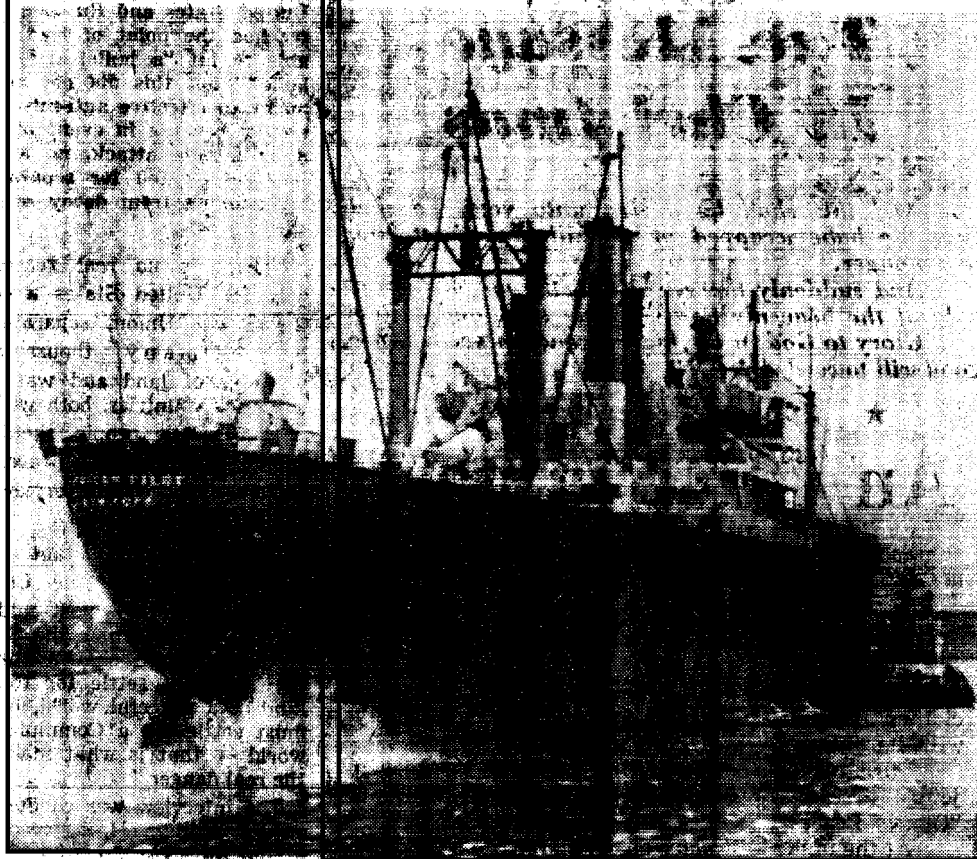
The International Red Cross, which has assumed sponsorship of the transaction, waited for Castro's go-ahead.

Also waiting in Miami was a team of negotiators headed by James Donovan, New York attorney, and including Rivaro Sanchez Jr., Mrs. Virginia Betancourt and Mrs. Berta Bareto of the Cuban Families Committee.

Their mission will be to fly to Havana and nail down a final, conclusive agreement when Cuba approves their Miami-to-Havana flight.

The S.S. African Pilot, a 435-foot freighter designated by the Red Cross as the vehicle for getting the ransom to Cuba, was steaming from Baltimore toward Port Everglades.

The African Pilot is expected to arrive in Port Everglades Wednesday. If Castro finally agrees with the nego-



—Associated Press Wirephoto

**African Pilot Sails Toward Port Everglades From Baltimore**  
... it will pick up medical supplies and foodstuffs for ransom.

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tators, the ship will be loaded with foods and medicines being stockpiled here.

Plans under way now call for a team of Pan American World Airways jets to fly to Havana to bring the prisoners back if all goes well.

The hoped-for swap calls for the ship to be either in port or at sea headed for Havana when the planes take off from Havana with their human cargo.

The planes are expected to

return either to Homestead Air Force Base or to Miami International Airport. If piston planes are also used to carry ransom or to bring back prisoners, these could land and take off at the Opa-locka Field.

The Families Committee maintained its usual official position of being "extremely optimistic" that this time the deal would go through.

Donovan, who flew here from New York, has said he

hopes to be able to reunite the prisoners and their families by Christmas.

Castro has demanded 62 million dollars worth of food and medical supplies or equipment in exchange for the prisoners, and has presented Donovan with a detailed list of what he wants.

The dollar figure is supposed to represent the supplies' worth at Havana prices, and in the United States is estimated at 13 million dollars at wholesale prices.

The African Pilot was scheduled to be turned over to the government next week as a trade-in on a subsidy arrangement. It had been under deactivation process for 24 hours when it was loaned to the Red Cross for use.

Cost of the ship's trip will be borne by the Committee of American Steamship Lines, which has 15 member companies — including Farrell Lines, which owned the African Pilot.